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LETTER DATED 19 MAY 1993 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF BULGARIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

Upon instructions from my Government I have the honour to transmit herewith the annexed Memorandum of the Government of the Republic of Bulgaria regarding the easing of the transshipment regime through the territory of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro).

I would be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Slavi PASHOVSKI
Permanent Representative of
Bulgaria to the United Nations

Annex

Memorandum of the Government of the Republic of Bulgaria regarding the easing of the transshipment regime through the territory of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro)

The Republic of Bulgaria strictly implements the United Nations Security Council resolutions with regard to the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro). It has declared its readiness to continue to abide in good faith by the obligations under those resolutions.

At the same time, the Government of the Republic of Bulgaria would like once again to draw the attention of the Security Council to the fact that the implementation of the trade and economic sanctions introduced by the above-mentioned resolutions has resulted in considerable direct losses to the Bulgarian economy.

As it was more specifically pointed out in the Memorandum dated 6 May 1993, of the Government of the Republic of Bulgaria regarding the implementation of United Nations Security Council resolution 820 (1993) (document S/25743), the restrictive transshipment regime through the territory of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) established by the respective resolutions has considerably disrupted the traditional trade and economic links of Bulgaria with the countries of Central and Western Europe. The greater part of Bulgarian exports and imports to and from the European markets is effected through the area under the sanctions regime. The use of detour routes with very heavy traffic even under normal conditions raises the cost of Bulgarian exports and has an extremely negative effect on their realization. All this leads to the speeding up of the process of inflation, the aggravation of the financial situation of the country, thus bringing about serious social consequences. The new measures introduced by Security Council resolution 820 (1993) of 17 April 1993, have, in practice, already resulted in the cutting off of the trade and economic links of Bulgaria with other European countries and in its isolation from markets of vital importance for the national economy.

In view of the above circumstances, the Government of the Republic of Bulgaria urgently calls upon the United Nations Security Council to consider, as a matter of priority, the possibilities of adopting the necessary steps to ease the transshipment regime through the territory of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro), both by land and on the Danube, while at the same time the strict implementation of the prohibitions and restrictions with regard to the import and export of goods and products to and from its territory is guaranteed by respective control measures.

17 May 1993